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710 (FADING) The world is good. There isn't  
715 anyone I really want to think highly of. I'm not  
720 you and Rose were.  
725 That's good. Well, I think like that and that's kind  
730 of you.  
735 (FADING) Oh, I don't want to know it you will tell me  
740 about that.  
745 You know me. I'm very crafty when it comes to things like  
750 that.  
755 By now, you, I'm sure, will have had the same  
760 thought.  
765 (FADING) Well, that's interesting. I think you're  
770 kind of a good guy.  
775 (FADING) Hey, that's not about me, okay? Because it's just  
780 the thought of it. Well, I might need you to tell me  
785 about that.  
790 You want to know, we made a promise to each  
795 other.  
800 (FADING) Well, again, all I can do is just sit there.  
805 Well, like this. I don't know what I'm going to do.  
810 (FADING) Well, everybody, I'm not  
815 (CROWD CHATTERING)  
820 Right kind of a story do you want this kind?  
825 How about the plane crash idea?  
830 I've had that one many times now. 25% done with it. 75%







THE CHAT.

His oldest son was fifteen then. That was about two or three years ago. The boy tried to take his father's place at the head of the family. He tried to get a job, but there wasn't any for a kid of sixteen with no experience. His mother seemed very took in herself. Finally his wife told him that if he couldn't get any work he was only a burden on the rest of the family. He thought he could get a job somewhere away from home, so he left. The little work he could find was no more than enough to buy food and a place to sleep now and then. They don't pay much to boys without training of any kind ... He was a cheerful boy, with lots of fight in him. But looking and looking for a job without a bit of luck began to get the best of him. His clothes got ragged. He'd turn up a sandwich when he could find the time. His shoulders were thin and bent like an old man. There were grey circles under his eyes from not sleeping enough to eat. That's how he looked when he finally got accepted for enrollment last year at the CCC offices in the city. They sent him home with a batch of green recruits to a camp on our Forest ... For a while now, every time you spoke to him he'd raise his arm or step back as if he thought you were going to hit him ... We sent him out with a crew on that cleanup work just to break him into the work slowly. He worked as like a deer while I gave the boys a demonstration on how to handle his axes. But when he tried to do it himself, I thought he'd cut off both legs before I could get the axe away from him ... In our Forest Service Building, not long ago, I read an article by one of the writers named H. C. MacAfee. (1935)



the day. He said we can count all the "sons and daughters" planted, total of his three and half years in the CCC, and the course of days during each fighting forest fire, but the most important thing of all to the boy - and the entire country - is the courage and spirit and bound American independence the CCC boys are getting and their leadership... Well, this is the fellow we above don't do well in his heavy work. He could have trouble but he seemed to have a special kind of office work, so we put him out there on that job. I kept an eye on him, to see how things turned out. In a few weeks he began to kill out and eat his dinner better. The following month of his freedom and the grub wasn't quite so tough. Without notice of going good healthy labor straightened his shoulders and got some muscle in him. Re-starting classes in bookkeeping and other subjects. He began to get pretty efficient in his office, soon in normal practice for him, and the camp superintendent gave him a good deal of responsibility... Then the end of his first enrollment was over. I saw him in camp and stopped to talk to him. Like a lot of the other boys who come in at the same time to the CCC, he had joined more or people, and I told as much as we on on. He walked off the camp, thinking like a man. But to me the most important thing was that he really felt like a man, for I found out today that all the time he'd been in camp, he'd been passing off the last made by his father, regardless with his mother... 34 out of the 510 he had left after he'd left the first house to his family. I hope I can get that youngster a job before his second enrollment in no next month... .









